

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TOKYO 04952 160324Z

64

ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 ORM-01 SR-02 EUR-08 SSO-00 NSC-05

NSCE-00 INR-05 INRE-00 CIAE-00 L-01 SY-02 DODE-00

SCA-01 VO-01 PRS-01 /048 W

----- 027733

O 160200Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9435

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 4952

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652 XGDS-3

TAGS: SREF, JA, UR

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ASYLUM BY SOVIET NATIONAL

REF: STATE 085884

1. SOVIET NATIONAL, ANATOLY YEVGENYEVICH DAVYDOV, APPEARED AT EMBASSY CHANCERY AT 2030 APRIL 15, 1975, REQUESTING ASYLUM. BORN IN LENINGRAD ON [Sensitive Information Removed Per NARA 28 AUG 2013], DAVYDOV, A JOURNALIST, WORKS FOR NOVOSTI PRESS AGENCY. FOR DOCUMENTATION, DAVYDOV BROUGHT HIS PASSPORT, OF WHICH WE ARE NOW IN POSSESSION. HE ARRIVED IN JAPAN APRIL 12, 1975, ON A THIRTY-DAY VISA, TO WORK AT THE SOVIET INFORMATION CENTER AT THE 11TH INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR. AS FAR AS WE ARE AWARE, NO FOREIGN AUTHORITIES HAVE DIRECT KNOWLEDGE OF DAVYDOV'S REQUEST FOR ASYLUM, BUT SINCE HE DISAPPEARED SUDDENLY FROM TWO NOVOSTI COMRADES AND AND HAS NOT RETURNED TO HIS HOTEL, SOVIET AUTHORITIES PRESUMABLY ARE AWARE THAT SOMETHNG IS AMISS.

2. DAVYDOV SEPARATED HIMSELF FROM HIS NOVOSTI COMRADES THE EVENING OF APRIL 15 WITH EXPLANATION THAT HE WOULD RETURN IN FIVE MINUTES. INSTEAD, HE JOINED TWO JAPANESE NATIONALS WHOSE NAMES AND TELEPHONE NUMBER HE HAD FROM A MUTUAL
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TOKYO 04952 160324Z

JAPANESE FRIEND IN MOSCOW, AND PROCEEDED WITH THEM BY TAXI

TO EMBASSY, WHERE HE PRESENTED
HIMSELF TO MARINE GUARD AND EXPLAINED HIS DESIRE TO SEEK
ASYLUM. APRIL 16 AM, HE IS STILL IN CHANCERY BUT WE PLAN
TO MOVE HIM TO GUARDED EMBASSY APARTMENT LATER IN DAY.

3. IN A HANDWRITTEN STATEMENT PREPARED IN RUSSIAN, DAVYDOV
WROTE, "I HAVE DECIDED TO QUIT THE SOVIET UNION BECAUSE IT
IS DIFFICULT FOR ME FURTHER TO COMPROMISE MY OWN CONSCIENCE
AND TO APPEAR AS IF I BELIEVE IN THE IDEALS WHICH I DEFINITELY
WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO BELIEVE IN. I CANNOT PERMIT MYSELF TO
THINK THAT THERE ARE ON EARTH NO PLACES WHERE PEOPLE CAN
EXPRESS THEIR THOUGHTS IN FRONT OF THOSE CLOSE TO THEM WITHOUT
FEAR FOR TOMORROW...I VERY MUCH HOPE THAT SOMEWHERE ON EARTH
I WILL YET BE ABLE TO SEEK OUT A SMALL CORNER WHERE THE DEGREE
OF INTERFERENCE IN MAN'S INNER PEACE HAS ALREADY REACHED THE
CIVILIZED LEVEL WHICH I IMAGINE." HE WANTS TO GO TO THE US.

4. DAVYDOV CLAIMS THAT THERE ARE NOT NOW NOR HAVE THERE
EVER BEEN ANY CRIMINAL CHARGES PENDING AGAINST HIM. WE
ALSO AWARE OF NONE.

5. ALTHOUGH HE SAYS HE WAS A KOMSOMOL MEMBER, DAVYDOV CLAIMS
TO HAVE NEVER BEEN A MEMBER OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY. HE HAS
HELD NO GOVERNMENT OFFICE FOR HIS EMPLOYMENT WITH
NOVOSTI.

6. DAVYDOV HAS APPROXIMATELY THIRTY DOLLARS AND STATES THAT
HE HAS NO ACCESS TO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.

7. DAVYDOV IS MARRIED TO YELENA FILIPOVNA (MAIDEN NAME
[Sensitive Information Removed Per NARA 28 AUG 2013]) BUT SAYS HE IS IN PROCESS OF GETTING A DIVORCE.
SHE AND SON, ALEXY, BY A FIRST MARRIAGE TO MAN NEMED CHERNYCHEV,
LIVE IN LENINGRAD. DAVYDOV'S PARENTS AND A SISTER, HIS ONLY
SIBLING, ALSO LIVE IN LENINGRAD.

8. WE ARE INFORMING FONOFF AND POLICE THAT WE HAVE DAVYDOV
IN CUSTODY AND THAT WE ARE INVESTIGATING POSSIBILITIES FOR
MOVEMENT TO THIRD COUNTRY, PENDING DECISION AND ARRANGEMENTS
BY USG TO ADMIT HIM TO THE US. GOJ WILL UNDOUBTEDLY PRESS
FOR EARLY DEPARTURE FROM JAPAN AND WILL EVENTUALLY WANT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 TOKYO 04952 160324Z

TO ALLOW SOVIET AUTHORITIES TO SEE DAVYDOV UNDER SUPERVISION
AND CONTROL OF GOJ AUTHORITIES. WE AND, WE ARE SURE, GOJ
WILL AVOID ALL PUBLICITY, IF POSSIBLE. HOWEVER, WE WILL DISCUSS
PRESS GUIDANCE WITH FONOFF IN CASE INCIDENT BECOMES KNOWN.

9. PLEASE ADVISE.
HODGSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL ASYLUM
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TOKYO04952
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750132-0162
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750444/aaaaboyz.tel
Line Count: 114
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 75 STATE 085884
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 JUN 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <30 OCT 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REQUEST FOR ASYLUM BY SOVIET NATIONAL
TAGS: SREF, JA, UR, (DAVYDOV, ANTOLY YEVGENYEVICH)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006